

SIOSA Board of Directors Meeting and Annual Meeting
City Park, Saint Charles, Iowa
August 21, 2014

Board members attending were: John Orvis, Mark Erke, Dick Hillyard, Andy Kellner, Casey Campbell, Gregg Pattison, Rich Erke. About 28 people in total attended including many landowners from Madison County.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Dick Hillyard read the Treasurer's Report and it was approved.

Regular Account:

Balance 2/6/2014	\$1,237.18
(REAP \$95.55; SIOSA 1,141.63)	

CREDITS:

5/8 Cash-2 bottles of maple syrup	\$20.00
5/8 Midwest Land Restoration-Supporting Memb.	\$100.00
5/8 Casey Campbell-Syrup and Memb.	\$160.00
5/8 Andrew Kellner-Savanna Friend Memb.	\$25.00
5/28 State of Iowa-remainder of REAP grant	\$497.19
5/31 Interest	\$.02
6/30 Interest	\$.01
7/31 Interest	\$.01

DEBITS:

5/9 Ck #1095 Stephanie Mendenhall CPA, PC - Income Tax Form 990EZ for 2013 and Correspondence with IRS concerning 2011 tax return	\$450.00
7/18 Ck #1096 Veronica Mecko (June/July fees, \$200 each)	\$400.00

Balance 8/21/2014	\$1,189.41
(No REAP--All SIOSA funds)	

Federal Account:

Balance 5/8/2014	\$17,721.21
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CREDITS:

5/31 Interest	\$.15
6/30 Interest	\$.15
7/31 Interest	\$.14

DEBITS:

7/9 Ck #1111 Adaptive Wildlife Mgmt., Oak Savanna Restoration for Steve Chopard in Clarke Co., Iowa--60 acres	\$1,440.00
7/9 Ck#1112 Adaptive Wildlife Mngmt., Oak Savanna Restoration for Lucas County Conservation Board in Lucas Co., Iowa--45 acres	\$360.00

Balance 8/21/2014	\$15,921.65
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Habitat and Restoration:

Gregg Pattison had a map to show the SIOSA Priority Work Areas for 2014-2015 and he explained about the Partners for Fish & Wildlife money for habitat and restoration which is the main source of funding now. SIOSA has \$60,000 available this fall but all funds have been spoken for. Half of this in Decatur Co. and other between Clarke, Lucas and Monroe; one site in Ringgold also.

FWS now is "regearing" the way they think to a Surrogate Species approach to management. They have chosen 21 species and use these species to make population goals. Surrogate Species 1.0 has 0 forest species on it but does have grassland species. Hopefully red-headed woodpecker will be added to list and this will bring more funding into the area.

SIOSA funding is for initial timber stand improvement work, not for burning. Burn money comes from REAP distributed through the Soil and Water Conservation District offices. SIOSA has burn equipment for members to use housed at Little River Park. Trying to build a burning crew with a couple of ATVs. Equipment is to help maintain management after initial TSI. The current focus is on continuing to burn properties SIOSA has already worked on and we encourage people to help other people with burns.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 11 Fall Burn Workshop will be in the Clanton Creek Watershed on the Lair property north of this watershed next to the Holliwel Bridge. Kevin Lair received a grant from Farm Bureau for Community Development and is using the funds to organize the burn. The goal is to engage the local community to be involved with ecologically sound management. About 15-20 acres will be burned. There will be a burn in timber in November also.

Other Business:

Restoration at Springer Woods, north of Decatur City about 1/2 mile then 1 mile west. Travis Strable has already done a fire break on the east side of Springer Woods. Gravel road borders the other sides. SIOSA as a group will do the burns on this site. This is solid timber but has old oaks at the site. The north area has good potential for open savanna. North of Decatur City about 1/2 mile then west 1 mile (just west of Interstate).

The meeting ended at about 10:00 a.m.